



070050.2891  
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Jessell et al.  
Serial No. : 10/789,308 Examiner : Gamett, Daniel C.  
Filed : February 26, 2004 Group Art Unit : 1647  
For : SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR SCREENING FOR MODULATORS  
OF NEURAL DIFFERENTIATION

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States  
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1440 on: February 15, 2007  
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Van H. Nguyen  
Attorney Name

Signature

56,571

PTO Reg. No.

February 15, 2007

Date of Signature

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement of August 15, 2006, please consider the following remarks. Applicants enclose herewith a Request for Extension of Time for five (5) months up to and including February 15, 2007, and the required fee. If any other fee is required in connection with this communication or any overpayment has been made, please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-4377.

**Remarks** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-80 are currently pending and have been subject to restriction. The Examiner asserts that the claims are drawn to eight patentably distinct inventions as follows:

- Group I. Claims 1-12, 14, 16-26, 28, 30-36, 38, and 40-42, drawn to an in vitro system and methods for identifying a modulator of neural differentiation, classified in class 435, subclass 377;
- Group II. Claims 45-53, drawn to methods for identifying a modulator of a Wnt signaling pathway, classified in class 435, subclass 377;
- Group III. Claims 54-65, drawn to methods for identifying a modulator of a BMP signaling pathway, classified in class 435, subclass 377;
- Group IV. Claims 66-79, drawn to methods for identifying a modulator of a Hh signaling pathway, classified in class 435, subclass 377;
- Group V. Claim 13, 15, 27, 29, 37, and 39, drawn to a modulator of neural differentiation, classification dependent upon the structure of the modulator;
- Group VI. Claim 80 in part, drawn to a modulator of a Wnt signaling pathway, classification dependent upon the structure of the modulator;
- Group VII. Claim 80 in part, drawn to a modulator of a BMP signaling pathway, classification dependent upon the structure of the modulator; and
- Group VIII. Claim 80 in part, drawn to a modulator of a Hh signaling pathway, classification dependent upon the structure of the modulator.

Applicants hereby elect the claimed method of Group IV, claims 66-79, drawn to methods for identifying a modulator of a Hh signaling pathway. Applicants submit that the election is made without prejudice to the prosecution of the subject matter of non-elected claims in divisional, continuation, and continuation-in-part applications.

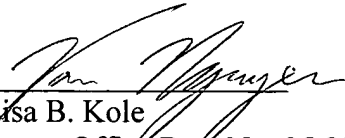
The Examiner further requires a species election where Group IV is elected, but the Examiner does not provide any specific species from which to elect. However, based upon the other species elections recited in the Restriction Requirement, Applicants assume that the

Examiner intended to identify the activators of Hh signaling recited in claim 76. Based upon this assumption, Applicants hereby elect SHh as the activator of an Hh signaling pathway.

Applicants reserve the right to rejoin the remaining species upon allowance of a generic claim. Currently, claim 66 is generic.

Entry of the foregoing remarks into the file of the above-identified application is respectfully requested. An early allowance is earnestly sought.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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